

11 April 1955

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Gold Markets in several Far Eastern Cities

BACKGROUND

1. Hong Kong trade returns for 1954, page 325 show the export of gold bars to Macao of \$HK 326,568,437, (U.S. \$56,695,473). This is roughly the equivalent of Hong Kong total 1954 imports of gold from all sources. It is believed that a large part of this gold is imported in transit for Macao from London and smuggled back to Hong Kong. However, this is a great deal of gold and the trade, along with possible disappearances, is of great intelligence interest.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Names, addresses and similar detailed background information on dealers handling this gold.

2. Detailed information on the source of this gold - markings on the bars will usually identify the source. Find especially if any Chinese, Soviet or Spanish origin gold was involved.

3. Amounts of gold sold on a periodic basis, preferably monthly or quarterly.

4. A detailed description of the Hong Kong, Macao, Bangkok, and Saigon controls, regulations, major dealers, major buyers and sellers, relation to Saigon, Bangkok and Macao. (Such a description may be obtainable from a major Hong Kong bank or gold dealer.)

5. Names of major shippers of gold (transportation companies).

6. Names of major insurers of gold shipments.

7. What currencies are used in gold exchanges - e.g. do Chinese or Russian or other sellers ask for dollars, sterling or other currency? How are payments for the gold effected - by actual currency transfers, by bank draft, or telegraphic transfers through banks in Hong Kong, London, New York, Switzerland, etc? Or is the gold used to pay for Chinese Communist exports?

8. Are Chinese Communist Yuan used in any gold transactions by either buyers or sellers?

9. Is there any evidence that the Chinese Communists are buyers of gold either officially or by individuals in the black market?

10. Is there any evidence that the USSR is a seller in the Hong Kong or Macao or Bangkok markets?

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7 Enclosures
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